

Utility Commission
February 3, 2025
DELMAR TOWN HALL & VIA TELECONFERENCE

The regular scheduled meeting of the Delmar Utility Commission was called to order by Commissioner Cory Shaffer. This meeting is available to the public, in person with limited seating and via teleconference. The phone number and access code has been provided to all the members as well as the public. In attendance was Commissioner Ronald Nembhard, Council Member Todd Lanier, and Commission Members Lori Dewald and Phillip Moore. Key Personnel: Town Mgr. Jeff Fleetwood, and Clerk of Council, Vondell Spencer. Guests: Mayor Thomas Bauer.

Commissioner Shaffer called the meeting to order. A quorum was established with five members present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded (Nembhard/Moore) and carried to approve the December 2, 2024 meeting minutes with a correction/capitalization on page 1 and 2. Commissioner Shaffer took a vote and the motion was passed with 5 Ayes.

Unfinished Business –

None.

New Business–

None.

Town Manager’s Report –

Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported: 1.) The budget season has started. The first formal presentation will be February 26th at 6:00 p.m. which will be the 1st Utility and Joint Council Budget Workshop. 2.) The town will see a substantial request for capital from the Water Treatment Plant for FY’26. The project that Dr. Oberton will be requesting is to do significant maintenance on the clear well which cannot be done in phases and while the tanks are empty. 3.) The surveys, and engineering have been completed and an RFP should be going out soon which has been approved for a \$1.8 million project for the Phase 3 INI project. 4.) Applications were made this week for four sizeable grants: Maryland Phase 2, a request for both Delaware and Maryland monies to construct a new water tower for the northeast quadrant of town, grant money was requested to help Colonial Mill out due to PFAS in their well, money was requested to help Gateway Mobile Home Park because they have PFAS in their shallow wells. 5.) A response was received by the town from the Maryland audit with zero findings and responses for Delaware and

Utility should be received next week. 6.) Town Mgr. Fleetwood will be on vacation for the next two weeks. Upon his return he has requested Office Manager, Kimberly Layton to provide a side-by-side report on utility revenue. 7.) Gazebos and a new fence were installed at the State St. Park and West Tot. 8.) The Gordy Park fence was removed today on the south end of the basketball courts. SealTech will mill, overlay, seal, and restripe the basketball courts at Gordy Park in February/March. 9.) The Municipal Sewage Flow Capacity report was submitted to MDE (Maryland Department of Environment). Town Mgr. Fleetwood reported that in 2021 the town reported a daily average flow of 721,000 gallons a day. Now in year-end 2024 the town has reported a daily average of 584,000 gallons a day. 10.) Town Engineer, Josh Taylor will be at the Joint Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. tonight. Mr. Taylor's last day at DBF is February 21st. Town Mgr. Fleetwood said he will be sorely missed by the town. The town staff did meet with DBF today which included Josh Taylor, Jason Loar, Nick Bradley, and John McGee. Mr. Bradley and Mr. Loar will be the point of contact for the town. Mr. Bradley will be a PE in the next 5 months and Town Mgr. Fleetwood stated he has no reservations about Mr. Bradley. DBF clarified today if the town needs Mr. Taylor because of his institutional knowledge he will be available and it would fall under DBF's umbrella.

Commission Comments –

- 1.) Commissioner Nembhard commented it will be a smooth transition with DBF.
- 2.) Commission Member Moore commented he has listened to Seaford, Blades, and Georgetown talking about PFAS.
- 3.) Council Member Lanier commented there used to be quite a bit of water on Sixth St. and now it looks like it's fixed and we will wait and see once we have a good amount of water.
- 4.) Commission Member Dewald commented she is thankful for the people the town has in place now because we are finally in the 2025th century instead of the 1990's. She commented that was their attitude for a long time. She further commented if the previous people were still in place the town would be in a heap of trouble.
- 5.) Commissioner Shaffer commented he has been in talks with people from other town's and for whatever reason he does not understand how the lead and copper rule got over looked by some towns. They did not make haste on it when it came out. But now they are trying to get information on how other towns have handled the lead and copper rule. He further commented he is very proud of the fact there are people in place that made it happen and we got it done.

Public Comments –

- 1.) Mayor Thomas Bauer commented he was not here but things have changed quite a bit as we know. He commented the Utility Commission has changed so, definitely improvements.

Commissioner Shaffer announced the request was made to move the Utility Commission meeting to from 6:30 p.m. before the Delaware Council meeting to 6:00 p.m. which interferes with people getting off of work and travel time. So, the Utility Commission is moving the meeting to Monday 6:30 p.m. before the Mayor and Commissioners meeting which is the second Monday of every month.

Adjournment –

A motion was made, seconded (Dewald/Lanier) and carried to adjourn. The motion passed with 5 Ayes.

Submitted by:

Vondell Spencer
Clerk of Council